[Mr. G. Raman Menon.]

NEUTRALS—11.

1. Mr. N. Kumaran	7. Mr. M. N. Pillai
2. Mr. T. Kumara Pillai	8. Mr. R. Padmanabhan
3. Mr. K. Madhavan Pillai	9. Mr. K. Sivarama Panikkar
4. Mr. T. J. Matthew	10. Mr. S. Subrahmanya Karayalar
5. Mr. G. Narayana Pillai	11. Mr. K. K. Thomas.
6. Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai	

The motion was lost.

PRESIDENT: I take it that the House grants Rs. 2·77 lakhs *minus* Rs. 100 under Demand VIII—Registration.

The grant was made.

DEMAND IX—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—Rs. 2·01 LAKHS.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I beg to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 2·01 lakhs under Demand IX—General Administration—Huzur Cutcherry.

Motion 257.

The following motion was deemed not to have been made as the member was absent:—

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI:

257. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 51,319 for Establishment by Rs. 100.

Motion 258.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I beg to move the following motion:—

258. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,500 for upkeep of motor car by Rs. 2,000.

The object is to suggest that the upkeep of the Dewan's motor car or cars can be more economically provided for if arrangements are made for the same in conjunction with those at the Royal Stables. Of course, the Dewan has control over the Royal stables as he is the trusted servant of the Sovereign in all public matters as well as in the domestic arrangements for the convenience of the Sovereign and the Royal Family. I am quite aware of the fact that it is desirable and even necessary to have one car or more cars at the beck and call of the Dewan to facilitate the discharge of his duties. This will not be interfered with under the arrangements I propose. I only suggest that the establishment of employees for the unkeep of the motor car or cars may be coordinated with that of the cars at the Royal stables. It seems to me that this will result in saving of avoidable expenditure and greater efficiency in the upkeep of the State motor cars. I am not particular about the exact sum I have put down for being reduced. It is unessential. The point is that the Government should try to economise expenditure on the upkeep of the Dewan's motor car or cars by co-ordinating the arrangements for it with those for the upkeep of motor cars at the Royal stables.

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not quite follow how the member expects any savings in the maintenance of the Dewan's motor cars if they are transferred to the Royal Stables. He has not explained in what way he expects savings. Each car has its own establishment, *i. e.*, a driver and a cleaner, and you have to retain them whether the car is stabled in the Royal stables or is in the direct custody of the Huzur Department. The expenditure on a car depends on the use that is made of it and I cannot see what savings could be expected if the car is placed under the control of an agency outside the immediate control of the officer who uses it. I have not been able to follow what exactly his proposals are. There is also this objection—

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): Will it not inconvenience the Dewan?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That was what I was going to say. The cars should be constantly available to the Dewan for use and he should not have to send for them, whenever he wants them, from a distance of about 3 miles. And then, there is another point which the House should note, *i. e.*, if the cars and expenditure on them are chargeable to the Royal stables, they no longer come under the control of this House, but will go under a non-votable head. Then again, the expenses connected with the cars mainly consist of petrol and repair charges. So far as petrol and supply of tyres and things like that are concerned, these are arranged for by the Government after obtaining tenders or quotations from various firms dealing with those articles, so that proper economy is exercised in the matter of purchasing these articles. As I said in the beginning, the staff cannot be diminished because each car has a minimum number of persons required to run it. So, I do not see in what way anybody gains by transferring the car to the Royal Stables and meeting the expenditure from the Royal stables budget.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): May I know whether it is not possible by co-ordinating the two establishments to make a saving in the number of experts required?

MR. K GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There are no experts. There is only a driver and a cleaner for each car.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Experts are required for repairing, and servants for cleaning.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is only one driver and one cleaner. So far as repairs are concerned, they are mostly made through the Government workshops. There is no repair made by any private agency.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): As I only wanted to suggest that this matter may be considered by the Government, I am not particular about pressing the motion. I beg leave to withdraw it.

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PRESIDENT: May I take it that the House permits the motion to be withdrawn?

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The following motions were not moved :—

Motions 259 and 260.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON:

259. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,296 for Huzur Cutcherry by Rs. 1,000.

260. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,292 for Huzur Cutcherry by Rs. 480.

Motion 261.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Sir, I beg to move the following motion:

261. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,296 for Huzur Cutcherry by Re. 1.

The object of the motion is to ventilate the grievances of the people caused by the want of response on the part of the Administration to the urgent needs of the people. I consider that this is the most important subject that can be brought to the notice of the Government at any time, especially during the Budget Session. I am very earnest in this matter and I humbly beg to submit to this House and to the President that I am placing before this House the results of the experience of half a life time in a very short and necessarily fragmentary form. So I request that careful attention may be given to the suggestions which I make and to the facts which I refer to.

The first and most urgent need of the people is justice in all public affairs. It is not justice merely in the technical, legal, sense that I refer to in this connection, but justice in the broad, moral and political meaning of the term. The most urgent need of any aggregation of human beings is justice in this sense. Justice in the technical, legal, sense is only a part of justice in the broader sense. Consciously or unconsciously, every aggregation of human beings desires justice and Government and other social organisations are the result of the working of this desire in the external activities of life. As regards any aggregation of human beings which has made some advance from the primitive savage state, the Government is the most comprehensive and the strongest organisation deliberately or by acquiescence supported by the particular aggregate of human beings.

There is no doubt that such is the case in Travancore. It becomes essential therefore that the primary object and justification for the existence of the organisation of Government should be constantly kept in view by those who are in charge of the Executive Government and the representatives of the people generally. Morally speaking, those who are in control of the Executive Government ought to be the representatives of the people. For safeguarding justice to the people, in the broad sense, to any tolerable extent and for any considerable period of time, it is necessary that the executive Government should be controlled

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by the proper representatives of the people. As regards recent times, the people of Travancore have been more or less consciously and deliberately crying for this at least during the last 25 years, though the cry may have become distinct and articulate only about a dozen years ago. Even about a hundred years ago, the people of Travancore carried out to a successful termination an agitation for having a representative of the people as the chief minister of the Sovereign. In Travancore and Kerala, generally, in ancient times, the Government was always under the control of the citizens of the State though the areas of the States were generally small during certain periods. They had the physical power to ensure this, and they used it whenever necessary and that was rather pretty often. Conditions have changed now, and our forms of agitation have also necessarily changed.

I submit, Sir, that there has not been a response to our cry, even to a tolerably fair extent, from the powers that be. The life of the common people is becoming well-nigh unbearable under the present circumstances.

Our Governmental machinery is in form and expenditure that of Europe in the twentieth century. But its spirit and working and the inner constitution are that of the 14th or the 15th century of European history. Such a combination is disastrous. The evil consequences are in evidence in all spheres of our life. The urgent needs of the people are neglected. The Executive Government and the officers have no eyes and ears or hearts for the needs of the people. I do not blame them for that, under the existing conditions. Nobody who is not a saint and a sage combined can be expected to do much better for the real good of the people under the present conditions. Therefore in the interests of the country, including those of the officials, I pray for a change of the system of Government.

I shall now refer to one or two examples to show that the officers have no ear or heart to the real and urgent needs of the people. This can be very easily seen from the budget allotment of the previous years, and especially from the budget allotment for 1103. Large amounts of money have been provided for the convenience of a few chosen areas such as the town of Trivandrum and a few other places. The urgent needs of the people of north and central Travancore have been neglected. In answer to a question which I put in the Council about a road from Kuttitheruvu to Krishnapuram being extended to Putupalli, it was pointed out by the Government that the Chief Engineer has reported that another parallel road, about a mile distant, was being constructed and that therefore the road proposed by me was not necessary for the reason that there was a path there now, leading from Krishnapuram to Putupalli. Well, to be brief about it, I only pray to Her Gracious Highness the Maha Rani Regent to order the Dewan, the Chief Secretary and the Chief Engineer to make a personal inspection of this path, referred to in the answer, just after a good downpour of rain.

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MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): We are now concerned with General Administration, Secretariat, and not with the P. W. D. Individual roads, a number of them, were referred to when the P. W. D. Budget was discussed.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartigapally*): Sir, I mentioned this only as an example to show that the Government are not sympathetic towards the urgent needs of the people. Well, Sir, even if there is a path, that path, after rain, will be covered with a number of holes caused by the breaches of a number of channels and waterways. There are not even foot-bridges on this path. There are examples of such paths everywhere, especially in the taluks represented by me, *viz.*, Kartikapalli and Mavelikara, as also in Karunagapalli. All these things do not attract the attention of the authorities. The reason is that they are not responsible to the representatives of the people. We, in the rural parts, require these roads, paths, bridges and culverts not for increasing the luxuries of life like motor traffic, but simply to increase facilities for earning our livelihood by bringing manure and for carrying bulky agricultural produce, such as cocoanut husks and tapioca. For all these things, it is necessary to have roads even for distances of a mile or less. I know, in the present instance, the distance is more than a mile. The same is the case in Mutukulam, Chingoli, Cherutana and several other places in the Kartikapalli taluk. As I pointed out on a prior occasion, the people in some parts of central Travancore were terribly hit by the loss of cocoanut trees caused by the cocoanut palm disease and also by the fall in the prices of coir and cocoanuts. What have the Government done to relieve them from these difficulties? I am sure there are similar difficulties in the case of other parts of Travancore also. The Government have not, to my mind, done anything substantial towards meeting the needs of the people. On the other hand, they have succeeded in wiping out the annual surpluses ranging from about 20 to 25 lakhs of rupees during recent years. They have also suddenly added to the expenditure of the Government by over Rs. 16 lakhs without doing anything to decrease the burden of the people. The abolition of tollgates was pressed by this Council. It was said that the Government were considering it. It s now more than a year since the matter was brought to the notice of the Government. Still nothing has been done in the matter.

Sir, from all these points, and from several others which I have no time to refer to, it will be clear that the Government are not making even a tolerably fair response to the cries of the people. This can be remedied only by the establishment of responsible Government. I therefore request you, Sir, to convey to Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent, our prayer that a Minister, chosen from amongst the representatives of the people, is required for doing the needful and for righting the injustice that has very long been suffered, especially by the rural population and also by the majority of the people of the country.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഞാൻ മിസ്റ്റർ രാമൻ മേനവന്റെ ഉപന്യാസത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു.

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ഓരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറിൽ നിന്നും ഗവർമ്മെൻറുദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതോ ജനങ്ങളം പ്രതീക്ഷിക്കുന്നതോ ആയ ഗുണങ്ങളം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നില്ലെന്ന മാത്രമല്ലാ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു വളരെ സങ്കടങ്ങളം ഉണ്ടായിക്കൊണ്ടുമിരിക്കുന്നു. അതിനു പരിഹാരം ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതു കേന്ദ്രസ്ഥാനമായി നിൽക്കുന്ന ഹജൂർകച്ചേരിയിൽ നിന്നാണു്. എല്ലാ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറിനേയും ഭരിച്ചുനടത്തിക്കുന്നതു ഹജൂക്കച്ചേരിയാണല്ലൊ. എല്ലാ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറുകാക്കും ആജ്ഞകളം കൊടുക്കുന്നതും അവരുടെ പ്രവൃത്തികളിന്മേൽ ശാസിക്കേണ്ടവരെ ശാസിക്കുന്നതും പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടവരെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുന്നതും എല്ലാം ഹജൂർ വകുപ്പാണു്. ജനക്ഷേമത്തെ മുൻനിറുത്തി പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നവരെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിച്ചു് ഉയർന്ന പദത്തിൽ കയറുകയും ജനക്ഷേമത്തിനു വിപരീതമായി പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ തരം താഴ്ത്തുകയൊ ബഹിഷ്കരിക്കയൊ ചെയ്യുകമ്മങ്ങളം ശരിപ്പെടുത്തുകയും ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു ഹജൂർ വകുപ്പാണു്. രാഷ്ട്രീയ ശരീരത്തിൻെറ ശിരസ്സെന്നവണ്ണം സ്ഥിതിചെയ്യുന്ന ഹജൂർവകുപ്പു്, സൂര്യൻ ഗ്രഹങ്ങളെ തൻെറ ആകർഷണപരിധിയിൽ നിറുത്തി അതതിൻെറ പദ്ധതിയിൽ കൂടി നയിക്കുന്നതുപോലെ മറു ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറുകളെ അതതിൻെറ പദ്ധതിയിൽ കൂടി നയിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കണം.

ഇപ്പോൾ എൻെറ മാന്യസ്നേഹിതൻ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതുപോലെ പബ്ലിക്കുസർവ്വീസിൽ വളരെ അഴിമതികൾ ഉണ്ടു്. പ്രധാന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരിൽ പലരും പ്രായേണ അഴിമതികൾ നിറുത്തുന്നതിൽ അലസന്മാരോ അശക്തന്മാരോ ആയിട്ടാണു കാണപ്പെടുന്നതു്. ഇവരെ കൃത്യബോധമുള്ളവരായി നയിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതു ഹജൂരിൽനിന്നാണു്. ഇപ്പോൾ ഓരോ വകുപ്പുകളിലും നിന്നുണ്ടാകുന്ന ഒരോവിധമായ സങ്കടങ്ങൾക്കും ഹജൂർ വകുപ്പുതന്നെയാണ് ഉത്തരവാദി.

എന്നാൽ പബ്ലിക്കു് സർവീസിൽ പ്രാതിനിധ്യമില്ലാത്ത വർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾക്കാണു് അധികം സങ്കടമുള്ളതു്. (ചിരി) ഹജൂർവകുപ്പുതന്നെ പല വർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾക്കും പ്രാതിനിധ്യം ഇല്ലാത്ത നിലയിലാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. പിന്നെ മറു വകുപ്പുകളുടെ സ്ഥിതി പറയാൻ ഇല്ലല്ലൊ. എല്ലാ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറുകൾക്കും മാതൃകയായിരിക്കേണ്ട ഹജൂർവകുപ്പിൽ സിക്രട്ടറിമാരായിട്ടും സൂപ്രണ്ടന്മാരായിട്ടും വളരെ ആളുകളുള്ളതിൽ രാജ്യത്തിൻെറ വമ്പിച്ച പല ജനവിഭാഗങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും ആരുംതന്നെയില്ലാ.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): കത്തോലിക്കരുണ്ടോ?

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MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*): കത്തോലിക്കരില്ലാ. ഈഴവരില്ലാ. മഹമ്മദീയരില്ല. ഇതുപോലെ ഓരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലും നോക്കിയാൽ ക്രിസ്ത്യാനികൾ, ഈഴവർ, മുഹമ്മദീയർ മുതലായ വർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾക്കു ഗണ്യമായ യാതൊരു സ്ഥാനവുമില്ലെന്നു കാണാം. ഇപ്പോൾ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നു പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്ക് എന്തെങ്കിലും കാര്യം സാധിക്കേണ്ടി വരികയൊ ഏതെങ്കിലും സങ്കടത്തിനു പരിഹാരം നേടേണ്ടതായി വരികയൊ ചെയ്യുമ്പോൾ ഓരോ ദേശക്കാരും ജനപ്രതിനിധിസഭകളിലും പബ്ലിക്ക് സർവ്വീസിലും അധിക പ്രാതിനിധ്യമുള്ള വർഗ്ഗത്തിൽപെട്ടവരുടെ പേരുകൾ മുമ്പിൽവച്ചു ഹാജരാകൊട്ടത്താലേ സാധിക്കൂ എന്നു ജനസാമാന്യം അനുഭവംകൊണ്ടു ധരിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇങ്ങിനെ ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളടങ്ങുന്ന വർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾക്കു രാജ്യത്തു ഒരു വിലയുമില്ലാതേയാണു വരുന്നതെന്നു് ഈ കൌൺസിലിലെ നടപടിതന്നെയും തെളിയിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. പ്രജാസഭയിലെ നടപടിയും ഇതുപോലെതന്നെ. ഈവിധം രാജ്യത്തെ ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളടങ്ങുന്ന വർഗ്ഗങ്ങളുടെ അഭിപ്രായങ്ങളെയും അവകാശങ്ങളെയും നിരസിച്ചു ഭരണം നടത്തുന്ന നയം ഒരു പരിഷ്കൃത ഗവൺമെൻറിൻെറ ചിഹ്നമാണെന്നു ആരെങ്കിലും പറയുമോ? രാജ്യത്തിലെ പല ഭാഗങ്ങളിലും സ്കൂളുകളില്ലാ, ആശുപത്രികളില്ലാ, റോഡുകളില്ല, മറ്റു പല സൌകര്യങ്ങളുമില്ലാ. അവ ഉണ്ടാക്കിത്തരണം എന്നിങ്ങനെ പ്രജാസഭയിലും നിയമസഭയിലും തുടർന്നു ജനപ്രതിനിധികൾ വാദിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും ഓരോഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകാരോടും ഇതാവശ്യമാണോ എന്നു ചോദിക്കാറുണ്ടു്. എന്നാൽ ഇതാരുടെ ആവശ്യമാണു്. ആരാണു ചോദിക്കുന്നതു്. ഏതു സമുദായത്തിൽപെട്ടമെമ്പരാണു് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഏതു പ്രദേശത്തിൽ ഉള്ളവക്കാണു് ആവശ്യം. ആ പ്രദേശത്തിലധിവസിക്കുന്നവർ അധികവും ഏതു സമുദായത്തിൽപെട്ടവരാണു. എന്നെല്ലാം നല്ലവണ്ണം ആലോചിച്ചാണു കീഴ്ദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ മറുപടി അയക്കുന്നതെന്നു അനുഭവം കൊണ്ടറിയാം. മേലുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ഓരോ ആഫീസുകളിലും ഇരിക്കുന്നവക്കും ഇതെല്ലാം നോക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു് അനുഭവം വിളിച്ചുപറയുന്നു. ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ ഗൌനിക്കുമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ സാധാരണ അദ്ദേഹത്തിൻെറ ആഫീസിലെ ക്ലർക്കോ മാനേജരോ ഗൌനിക്കുമെന്നായിരിക്കും പലപ്പോഴും അതു മാക്കേണ്ടതു്. ഗവർണ്മെൻറിൽ നിന്നു ഗൌനിക്കുമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ ഹജൂരിലെ ഒരു വകുപ്പിലെ സൂപ്രണ്ടോ സിക്രട്ടറിയൊ ഗൌനിക്കുമെന്നു് അതുമാക്കുവാനും ചിലപ്പോൾ പാടില്ലായ്കയില്ല. ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു

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അദ്ധ്യക്ഷനൊ ദിവാൻ തന്നെയൊ അതിമാനുഷനായിരുന്നാൽത്തന്നെയും എല്ലാ കടലാസും സ്വയം പരിശോധിച്ചു തീച്ചുചെയ്യാൻ ഒരിക്കലും സാദ്ധ്യമല്ല. പലപ്പൊഴും കീഴിലുള്ളവരുടെ നോട്ടുകളെ വിശ്വസിക്കേണ്ടിവരും. അവർ ദുഷിച്ച വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രതിപത്തിയാലൊ പ്രതീകാരചിന്തയാലൊ പ്രേരിതരായി പ്രവർത്തിച്ചാൽ ഫലമെന്തായിരിക്കും. ഓരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെയും മേലും കീഴുമുള്ള ആഫീസുകളിലെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ തമ്മിൽ പലപ്പൊഴും കൂട്ടുകെട്ടുണ്ടായിരിക്കും. പല വർഗ്ഗക്കാർ പല പടിയിലുമുണ്ടായിരുന്നാലേ ദോഷകരമായ ഈ കൂട്ടുകെട്ടു ശിഥിലമാകൂ. ഓരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെയും അടി ഒഴുക്കു് അതിൽ പ്രാതിനിധ്യമില്ലാത്ത വർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾക്കു ദോഷകരവും പ്രാതിനിധ്യമുള്ളവർക്കു ഗുണകരവുമായിട്ടാണു കാണുന്നതു്. ജാതിത്തണലിൽ അഴിമതികൂടം തഴച്ചുവളരുന്നു.

ഹജൂരിൽനിന്നും ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ഈ മാതിരി കൂട്ടുകെട്ടുകളെയും ദുർന്നയങ്ങളേയും ജനമദ്ധ്യ സമ്പ്രദായങ്ങളേയും മനസ്സിലാക്കി അവയെ അടിച്ചു തകർക്കണം. എല്ലാ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലും ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളടങ്ങുന്ന വർഗ്ഗങ്ങളെ അകറ്റിനിർത്തിയാണു് ഭരണംനടക്കുന്നതു്. ഇതിൻറെ ഫലമായി രാജ്യത്തിനു വളരെ ദോഷം നേരിട്ടുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ സമ്പ്രദായം രാജ്യത്തിനു് ഒരു പൽക്കരമായ ഭാവിയെ ക്ഷണിച്ചു വരുത്തുകയാണു്. ന്യായരഹിതവും രാജ്യക്ഷേമത്തിനു ഹാനികരവുമായ ഈ ഗതിയെ മാറ്റുന്നതിനു ദേശാഭിമാനികളായ എല്ലാ പൌരന്മാരും അത്യുത്സാഹം ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണു. രാജ്യത്തിലെ ഭൂരിപക്ഷക്കാരെ അധികാരമണ്ഡലത്തിൽനിന്നു് അകറ്റി നിറുത്തി ചവിട്ടി താഴ്ത്തി മട്ടിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു രാജ്യത്തിനു് അഭിവൃദ്ധി എങ്ങിനെയുണ്ടാകും. ഇന്നല്ലെങ്കിൽ നാളെ ഈ ദോഷകരമായ ഭരണഗതി അധഃപതിക്കുമെന്നതിനു ലോകത്തിലെ ഓരോ രാജ്യങ്ങളുടെ ചരിത്രങ്ങളും സാക്ഷ്യം വഹിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഭൂരിപക്ഷക്കാർക്കു മുന്നണിയിലേക്കുവരാനും അവരുടെ അവകാശങ്ങളെ സ്ഥാപിക്കാനും ഇപ്പോൾ യാതൊരു സൌകര്യവും നൽകീട്ടില്ല. ഇതു സ്ഥിതിതന്നെ തുടർന്നുകൊണ്ടു പോകുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഭാവിയിൽ രാജ്യത്തു പ്രജകളുടെ ഇടയിൽ വലിയ കലാപങ്ങൾതന്നെ ഉണ്ടായേക്കുമെന്നുള്ളതിനു സംശയമില്ല. മുന്നണിയിൽ നിൽക്കുന്നവർ മറ്റുള്ളവരേയും കൂടി കൈകൊടുത്തുപിടിച്ചു സമഭാവനയോടുകൂടി മുന്നോട്ടുകൊണ്ടുവന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ അതു രാജ്യത്തിനു വലിയ ആപത്തായിട്ടുതീരും. ഇതു അത്യാപത്തിൽ നിന്നും അവരെ രക്ഷിക്കേണ്ടതു യഥാർത്ഥ ജനപ്രതിനിധികളുടെയും ഗവൺമെൻറിൻറെ കടമയാണു്. ആലക്ഷ്യത്തിൽ "ശിഷ്ടം ജനങ്ങളുടെ പ്രതിനിധികളാണു്" ഇതു പ്രതിനിധിസഭയിൽ അധികം ഉള്ളതു്.

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[Mr. Tariatu Kunjitomman]

ഗവർമ്മെൻറും അവരുടെ ഹിതത്തിനു യോജിച്ചു ഭൂരിപക്ഷത്തിൻെറ മുമ്പോട്ടുള്ള ഗതിയെ തടയുന്ന കാര്യം എത്രയോ കഷ്ടതരമാണു്. രാജ്യത്തിലെ എല്ലാ ഭാഗങ്ങളിലേക്കും പ്രജകളുടെ എല്ലാ വിഭാഗങ്ങളിലേക്കും മറ്റുള്ളതിലെ ശ്രദ്ധ സമഭാവനയോടു പതിയണം. എല്ലാ വർഗ്ഗക്കാർക്കും അധികാരമണ്ഡലത്തിൽ പ്രവേശിക്കുവാൻ ചില വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതായ ഒരു ഗവർമ്മെൻറു ഓർഡർ ദിവാൻ മിസ്റ്റർ രാഘവയ്യായുടെ കാലത്തു പുറപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതു് സമത്വസമുദായങ്ങൾക്കു കൂടെ ആശ്വാസകരമായിരുന്നു. ആ ഓർഡറിലെ താല്പര്യമനുസരിച്ചു നടക്കുവാൻ എല്ലാ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറുകാരേയും നിഷ്കർഷയായി ചട്ടംകെട്ടണമെന്നു കൂടി പ്രസ്താവിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു് ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ബലമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, Mr. Raman Menon's topic was 'Responsible Government.' He said that the Government are not properly responsive to the needs of the people. He mentioned the same subject at the time of the general discussion of the Budget also. Then also, Sir, I was at pains to establish the fact that the Government, far from being irresponsive to the public weal, are becoming more and more responsive; and the budget that we are now discussing is the best proof to show the greater measure of response which the Government are giving to the requirements of the people. Mr. Raman Menon's point was illustrated by the action of the Government in the matter of a particular road. But, Sir, as against one particular road which the Government have, for adequate reasons, declined to construct—

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): May I inform the member that I referred to it only as an example?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, I am also referring to that example and also to other examples.

As against one particular road which the Government, for adequate reasons, declined to construct, there are hundreds of roads which the Government are undertaking to construct every year and there are also numerous examples of the Government volunteering to undertake various schemes for the welfare of the people. The practice of recent years by which the allotment for the construction of buildings has been reduced and the same added to the allotment for the construction of roads, is a very clear example of the Government's attitude in regard to the needs of the people.

The other point which Mr. Raman Menon brought to the notice of the House was that the Government had not done anything to restore the prices of cocoanut products, which have fallen in recent time. I am sure, Sir, that Mr. Raman Menon himself knows that the prices of

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our products are controlled by forces, to a large extent, outside of ourselves. That being so, it is almost asking the Government to do an impracticable thing—to say that the Government should take measures to restore the prices of their commodities. It is the world prices that control our prices, and so the problem has to be solved, not by taking any action here, but must mainly be by the operation of forces over which we have absolutely no control. These, I am sure, Sir, are not instances which prove the lack of response on the part of the Government towards the needs of the people.

Then, Sir, Mr. Raman Menon speaks of Responsible Government. That is a wide topic, a very important topic on which it is not possible to make a statement. I would only invite Mr. Raman Menon to the weighty pronouncements which fell from the Dewan on this subject in the last session of the Popular Assembly and in the session of 1100. Beyond that, I am not in a position to say anything.

The other speaker, Mr. Kunjitomman, practically drifted from the subject and brought in the subject of representation in public service. It is not necessary for me to give any answer to that, because that question has been fully discussed in this House time and again, and the views of the Government are already known to the members of this House. That is all what I have to say.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): മിസ്റ്റർ കുഞ്ഞുത്തൊമ്മൻ നമ്മുടെ ലക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾ അടങ്ങിയിട്ടുള്ള ഭൂരിപക്ഷക്കാർക്ക് ശരിയായി ഉദ്യോഗം കൊടുക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നും ഈ ലക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളടങ്ങിയ ന്യൂനപക്ഷക്കാരോടു ഗവർണ്മെൻറു അനുഭാവം കാണിക്കുന്നു എന്നും അതിനാൽ ഭാവിയിൽ വലിയ കലാപം ഉണ്ടാകുമെന്നും, വാദിച്ചതിനു ചീഫ് സിക്രട്ടറിയുടെ മറുപടി എന്താണു്?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): അതിനു മറുപടി പറയേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല. ഗവർണ്മെൻറു് ആ ഭാഗം സമ്മതിക്കുന്നില്ല.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് ഉദ്യോഗം കൊടുക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോടു ഗവർണ്മെൻറു യോജിക്കുന്നോ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): അതിലേക്കു പല കാരണങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നിരിക്കാം.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): കാരണം എന്തായാലും വാസ്തവം അതാണെന്നു സമ്മതിക്കുന്നോ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): ചില ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ കുറവുണ്ടായിരിക്കും.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഈഴവർ, കത്തോലിക്കർ, മുഹമ്മദീയർ ഇവർക്കു ഉദ്യോഗം തീരെ കൊടുത്തിട്ടില്ലെന്നു സമ്മതിക്കുന്നോ?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : തീരെ കൊടുത്തിട്ടില്ലെന്നു സമ്മതിക്കുന്നില്ല.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : Can the Chief Secretary disobey the ruling of the Chair regarding the language to be used ? (*Laughter.*)

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*) : ഇപ്രകാരം ഗവർണ്മെൻറു വർത്തിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു രാജ്യത്തു് അടുത്തകാലത്തു് ഒരു വലിയ കലാപത്തിനിടവരുമെന്നു് ഒരു ഭയപ്പെട്ടതായിട്ടോട്ടുകുടി മിസ്റ്റർ കുഞ്ഞുതൊമ്മൻ പറഞ്ഞതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഗവർണ്മെൻറിലെ ഒരംഗമായ ചീഫ് സെക്രട്ടറിക്കു് എന്താണു് അഭിപ്രായം ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not think it is necessary for me to answer that question.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : ഞാൻ എന്താണു് ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതെന്നു മിസ്റ്റർ കുമാരപിള്ളയുടെ വ്യാഖ്യാനംകൂടാതെതന്നെ ചീഫ്സെക്രട്ടറിക്കു മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ സാധിച്ചിട്ടില്ലെ?

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*) : I wish to make a few observations on the disappointment of the people owing to what we consider unjustifiable delay on the part of the Government in dealing with some of the reports and measures that come up before the Government for disposal.

First, I will refer to the Village Panchayat Regulation which was passed several years ago, but which has not yet been brought into force in any part of the country. In answer to an interpellation about it, I got a reply that the rules had to be framed, that the rules had been recently submitted by the Head Sirkar Vakil and that the matter was now under consideration. Sir, I think that the representatives of the people cannot be blamed if they are a bit impatient when they find that such a measure, which was found necessary for the progress and prosperity of the rural population several years ago, has been lying in the hands of the Government for several years. Although it is a matter that might require considerable attention and care and the framing of rules, still we cannot understand how it is necessary to delay the matter for such a long time. There are several other reports that have been called for by the Government and have not hitherto been submitted by those responsible or considered and final orders passed by the Government. I would pray, Sir, that greater attention may be given by the Government and more expedition secured in dealing with such matters so that the public may have the benefit of the reforms which the Government wish to introduce, as early as possible. The other day, it was promised on behalf of Government by the head of the department that the Government would consider a scheme for the direct recruitment of Proverthikars. Now, after one full year, we find that no

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report has been called for by the Government, nor has any report been submitted by the head of the department. I for one cannot at all find any justification for such negligence on the part of the Government to carry out a promise that they definitely made in this Council.

I may refer to other instances, but these are enough. I trust therefore that more earnest and timely attention would be given, in matters that affect the general welfare of the people, by the Government than they have been doing hitherto.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Sir, I support the motion. I do not want to get into any by-lanes so far as this question is concerned. Mr. Raman Menon raised the question of responsible Government, and I think a very strong case can be made out against Government with respect to the manner in which the Government are considering popular questions. I would take for instance the case of the Education Department.

PRESIDENT: Speak up, please. I cannot hear you.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): In regard to the Administration Report of the education Department, what I have to mention is that it has been stated in that report that there are at present 17 schools in which all classes of Her Highness' subjects are not permitted to study. These schools were there for ever so many years, and the whole of the people against whom this prohibition stands were agitating for its removal; but still the Government have not considered the question of removing the disability. Admissions to these schools are still denied to these people. Now, if there is responsible Government, if they find that what is being perpetrated is not justifiable, certainly these schools would have been thrown open to all classes of people much earlier. The present state of affairs could not have been possible in a country which has responsible Government.

I would also instance the question that has arisen at Suchindram, Government have been allowing this question to hang fire for the last so many months. In a country which has responsible Government the problem would have been solved within a week. Then again, recently, trouble has arisen at a place, very near Kottayam, called Thiruvarppu where there is a temple and a road by the side of it. Demand has been made, on behalf of certain classes of people for entry to these places, by persons who are interested in removing these obstacles. Mr. T. K. Madhavan and others requested the Government as well as the Devaswom Commissioner to see that this road is thrown open to all classes of people. This question has been hanging fire for the last two years. Nothing has been done, and it is a great inconvenience for the people of the locality to through a circuitous route and even to cross ferries during floods. Now, Sir, in a country which has responsible Government, I believe, this question could have been solved in two days. I believe the Government are in possession of the information that people are going to walk through that road this Saturday; and I hope Government will be able to come to some conclusion before that day and

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[Mr. N. Kumaran.]

would permit them to walk through that road without any trouble whatsoever. In a country where the Government is alive to the needs of the people and to their grievances, these long delays would not have occurred. Therefore, apart from the question of representation in public service, even for the removal of minor grievances, grievances which every Government must be very anxious to remove, I believe responsible Government is absolutely necessary. I therefore support the motion.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*) : ജനറൽ അഡ്മിനിസ്ട്രേഷനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് എനിക്കു ചിലതു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു ചില ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളിൽ നിന്നും ജനങ്ങൾ അനുഭവിച്ചു വരുന്ന ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടിനെപ്പറ്റിയാണ്.

ജനങ്ങൾക്കു പല സംഗതികൾക്കായും പല ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളിലും ഹർജികൊടുക്കേണ്ടതായി വരുന്നുണ്ട്. ആ ഹർജികളിൽ അതുകളിലേക്കാവശ്യമുള്ള സ്റ്റാമ്പും ഒട്ടിക്കാറുണ്ട്. ഇങ്ങനെ ഹർജി അയച്ചാൽ അതു് അയക്കുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനു കിട്ടിയോ എന്നറിയാൻ ഇപ്പോൾ ഒരു നിവൃത്തിയുമില്ല. ആ ഹർജിതന്നെ കാണുകയുമില്ല. അതിന്മേൽ യാതൊരു നടപടിയും നടത്താറില്ല. അതിനു മറുപടിയും കൊടുക്കാറില്ല. ഒരു ഹർജി കൊടുത്താൽ നാലും അഞ്ചും വർഷം കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടും ആ സംഗതിക്കു് ഒരു തീരുമാനവും ഉണ്ടാകുന്നില്ലെന്നു പറയാതിരിക്കാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്കു പലവിധമായ കാര്യങ്ങളും ഓരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ നിന്നും അറിയാനുണ്ട്. അതിലേക്കു് ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ സ്ഥിതിയിൽ വളരെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടു് അനുഭവിക്കുന്നു. ഇതാണു് ഒന്നാമത്തെ സംഗതി.

ഇനി പൊതുജനങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കുന്നതായ ഹർജിക്കു് എന്തു നടപടി നടത്തി, അല്ലെങ്കിൽ നടപടി നടത്തിയില്ല, എന്നവിവരം ജനങ്ങളെ അറിയിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാരോടു ഗവർൺമെൻറു നിർബ്ബന്ധമായി ചട്ടംകെട്ടണം. ഇപ്പോൾ തന്നെ ഈ നിർബന്ധവും അതിലേക്കു വേണ്ട വ്യവസ്ഥയും ഉണ്ടെന്നു ഞാൻ സമ്മതിക്കുന്നു. എന്നാൽ അതു് ഇപ്പോൾ നടക്കുന്നില്ല. അതു കൊണ്ടു ഗവർൺമെൻറു നിഷ്കർഷയായിട്ടു അതിനെ നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്താൻ വേണ്ട ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്യണം.

ഓരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലും ഓരോ തുറയ്ക്കു് ഓരോ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ ചുമതലപ്പെടുത്തീട്ടുണ്ടു്. അവർക്കു ചെയ്യേണ്ട ജോലികൾ പലതുമുണ്ടെങ്കിലും അവകളെ ശരിയായിട്ടും, നിഷ്കർഷയായിട്ടും ചെയ്യിക്കുന്ന

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തിനു ഗവർണ്മെൻറു വേണ്ട ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്യണം. പക്ഷേ ഞാൻ ഇങ്ങനെ പൊതുവെ പറഞ്ഞാൽ ചീഫ്സിക്രട്ടറി മറുപടി പറയാൻ എഴുനേൽക്കുമ്പോൾ എന്നെ വീഴ്ച്ചക്കാരനാക്കും. അതായതു ''ഗവർണ്മെൻറു നിബന്ധനകളെല്ലാം വച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. നിങ്ങൾ ഇങ്ങനെ പറഞ്ഞാൽ ഗവർണ്മെൻറ് എന്താണു ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു'' എന്നു ചോദിക്കും. ഇതിനെക്കാൾ കൂടുതലായിട്ടു ഞങ്ങൾക്കു പറയാനും നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഒരുദ്യോഗസ്ഥനു പല ജോലികളുമിരിക്കെ സ്വജാതിക്കാക്കു ഉദ്യോഗം കൊടുക്കാനും പുതുവൽ പതിച്ചു കൊടുക്കാനും മാത്രം സമയം വിനിയോഗിച്ചാൽ മതിയോ?

MR T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): ഗവർണ്മെൻറു ജോലികൾ പലതുമുണ്ടു്. അതെല്ലാം നിവ്വഹിച്ചു കഴിഞ്ഞതിനു ശേഷം സ്വജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഉദ്യോഗം കൊടുക്കയാണെങ്കിൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു വലിയപരാതിയില്ല.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഇങ്ങനെ സ്വജാതിക്കാരെ സഹായിച്ചു വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രതിപത്തികാണിക്കുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ പലരും ഉണ്ടെന്നു മിസ്റ്റർ കുമാരപിള്ളയ്ക്കു് ഇപ്പോൾ ബോദ്ധ്യമായോ?

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): സ്വജാതിക്കാരെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുണ്ടെങ്കിലും അതിൻെറ ''ഡിഗ്രി''ക്കു കുറച്ചുവ്യത്യാസം കാണും. എല്ലാവരും മനുഷ്യരാണു്. സ്വജാതിസ്നേഹവും, അവർക്കുദ്യോഗം കൊടുക്കണമെന്നുള്ള വിചാരവും ഉള്ളതു് എല്ലാ സമുദായത്തിലും സ്വാഭാവികമായിട്ടു കാണുന്നതാണു്. എന്നാൽ അതിൽ ചിലർ അപരിമിതമായി പ്രവൃത്തിച്ചു വരുന്നുണ്ടു്. അവർ അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്തു കൊള്ളട്ടെ. അതിൽ വിരോധമില്ല. പക്ഷേ ആ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനു നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ജോലികളെല്ലാം ശരിയായിട്ടു നിവ്വഹിച്ചിട്ടു് ഇങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യുകയാണെങ്കിൽ കുറച്ചു സമാധാനപ്പെടാമായിരുന്നു. താൻ വാങ്ങിക്കുന്ന ശമ്പളം ഗവർണ്മെൻറുദ്യോഗം ശരിയായി വഹിക്കുന്നതിനാണെന്നുള്ള വിചാരം ഏതുദ്യോഗസ്ഥനിൽ കാണുന്നില്ലയോ ആ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ ഗവർണ്മെൻറു പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണം.

ഇനി എനിക്കു പറയാനുള്ള സംഗതി വളരെ പ്രധാനമായ ഒന്നാണു്. ശ്രീമൂലംപ്രജാസഭയിലും, നിയമസഭയിലും പല അവസരങ്ങളിലും ഉദ്യോഗസംബന്ധമായ വഴക്കുകളിൽ പലവിധമായ ഭാഷകൾ ഉപയോഗിച്ചു വരുന്നതായി കാണുന്നു. അതായതു് എൻെറ സ്നേഹിതൻ മിസ്റ്റർ കുഞ്ഞുത്തൊമ്മൻ ഇന്നു പറഞ്ഞതുതന്നെ എന്താണെന്നു

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[Mr. T. Kumara Pillai.]

നോക്കാം. ഇവിടത്തെ ഗവർമ്മെൻറിന്റെ ഭരണഭാരം വഹിക്കുന്ന ദിവാൻജി തന്നെ പ്രസിഡൻറായിരിക്കുന്ന ഈ നിയമസഭയിൽ ദിവാൻജിയുടെ മുഖത്തു നോക്കി ഇങ്ങനെ പറഞ്ഞു. "ഇവിടെ നൂറ് ലക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളുള്ള ഭൂരിപക്ഷക്കാർക്ക് ഗവർമ്മെൻറ് ശരിയായ ഉദ്യോഗം കൊടുക്കുന്നില്ല. ഈ നിയമസഭയിൽ വെ ലക്ഷത്തോളം ജനങ്ങളുടെ ന്യൂനപക്ഷക്കാരുടെ പ്രതിപുരുഷന്മാരാണ് അധികമുള്ളത്. അവരോട് ഗവർമ്മെൻറ് പക്ഷപാതം കാണിക്കുന്നു. അതൊരിക്കലും ശരിയല്ല. ഇതിന്റെ ഫലമായി രാജ്യത്ത് അടുത്തകാലത്തു വലിയകലാപം വരാൻ ഇടയാകും" എന്നാണ് അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞത്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതു "അടുത്ത കാലത്തു" എന്നല്ല "ഭാവിയിൽ" എന്നാണു എന്നു മിസ്റ്റർ കുമാരപിള്ള ഓർക്കുന്നില്ലേ?

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): ഭാവി എന്നു തന്നെ ഉപയോഗിക്കാം. ഞാൻ ഉപയോഗിച്ച പദത്തിന്റെ അർത്ഥം "കുറച്ചു കാലംകഴിഞ്ഞു" എന്നാണു. എന്നാൽ അദ്ദേഹം തന്നെ ഉപയോഗിച്ച 'ഭാവി' എന്നുള്ള പദം ഒരു മിനിട്ടു കഴിഞ്ഞാലും ബാധിക്കുന്നതാണ്. വളരെ നാൾ കഴിഞ്ഞാലും ബാധിക്കുന്നതാണ്. പക്ഷേ ഈ മാതിരിയുള്ള ഭാഷ ഇങ്ങനെ ഉപയോഗിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു രാജ്യത്തിനും, ഗവർമ്മെൻറിനും നല്ലതാണെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ സ്വജാതിക്കാക്ക് ഉദ്യോഗവും പുതുവലും കൊടുക്കുന്നുഎന്നു മിസ്റ്റർ കുമാരപിള്ള സമ്മതിക്കയുണ്ടായല്ലോ. ഈ സംപ്രദായം ഒരു വക്കീൽക്കാർ തന്നെ വച്ച് അനുഭവിച്ചു കൊണ്ടിരുന്നാൽ ഭാവിയിൽ കലാപം ഉണ്ടാകയില്ലെന്നാണോ മിസ്റ്റർ കുമാരപിള്ള വിചാരിക്കുന്നതു?

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): അതുകൊണ്ട് ഈ മാതിരി ഭാഷകാം പ്രയോഗിക്കുന്നതിനിട കൊടുക്കാതെ ഗവർമ്മെൻറു ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണം. ഇതിലേക്കു പല ദൃഷ്ടാന്തങ്ങളും പറയാൻ സാധിക്കും. ഞാൻതന്നെ ഈ കൌൺസിലിൽ പല ചോദ്യങ്ങളും സപ്ലിമെൻറിനെപ്പറ്റി ചോദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതു വകുപ്പിൽ ധാരാളം അളുകൾ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരായിട്ടുണ്ട്. അവരെല്ലാം ഏതു ജാതിയിൽപെട്ടവരാണെന്നു വിവരിച്ച് എന്റെ ചോദ്യത്തിനു ഒരു സ്റ്റേറുമെൻറു തന്നു. അതു നോക്കിയാൽ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലുള്ള എല്ലാ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരും ഒരേ സമുദായത്തിൽ പെട്ടവരാണെന്നു ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെടും.

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ചില അവസരങ്ങളിൽ മിസ്റ്റർ കുഞ്ഞുത്തൊമ്മൻ പറയുന്നതിൽ യാതൊരു കുറവുമില്ലെന്നു തോന്നിപോകും. (മിസ്റ്റർ തരിയത്തു കുഞ്ഞുത്തൊമ്മൻ : ഹീയർ, ഹീയർ). പക്ഷേ ഇപ്രകാരം പറയിക്കുന്നതിനു സഹായിക്കുന്ന ഏക സംഗതി ഈ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ പ്രവൃത്തിദോഷമാണ്. (മിസ്റ്റർ തരിയത്തു കുഞ്ഞുത്തൊമ്മൻ : ഹീയർ, ഹീയർ) ഇതിനൊരു ദൃഷ്ടാന്തം പറയാം. എൽ. ആർ. എം. കമ്മിറ്റിയുടെ റിപ്പോർട്ട കൊടുത്ത കാലത്തു കന്യൂട്ടർ ഡ്രാഫ്റ്റ്സ്മാൻമാരേയും ഡ്രാഫ്റ്റ്സ്മാൻമാരേയും ആവശ്യമുണ്ടെന്നു പറഞ്ഞു ഈ സംഗതി ദിവാൻ പേഷ്കാർക്കും, സബ്മൈപ്രണ്ടിനും, ലാൻറ റവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണർക്കും നല്ലപോലെ അറിയാം. പത്തു പതിനാലുവർഷം സബ്ഡീസുള്ളവരെ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ നിന്നും പിരിച്ചുവിട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നും അവരെ അതിലേക്കു നിയമിക്കണമെന്നും കമ്മിറ്റി അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടപ്പോൾ ഈ ഡ്രാഫ്റ്റ്സ്മാൻമാർ ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നു സബ്മൈപ്രണ്ടു പറഞ്ഞു. ഇതാ ഇപ്പോൾ അത്യാവശ്യമുണ്ടെന്നു ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ചേത്തിരിക്കുന്നു. അതനുസരിച്ചുള്ള നിയമനം കഴിയുമ്പോൾ ഗവർമ്മെൻറു പരിശോധിച്ചാൽ ഇതിന്റെ രഹസ്യം മനസ്സിലാകുന്നതാണ്. ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള വ്യക്തിയമത്സരം ഉണ്ടാകാതിരിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം ഗവർമ്മെൻറു നിഷ്കർഷയായി വേണ്ട ഏർപ്പാടുകൾ ചെയ്യണം. മിസ്റ്റർ കുഞ്ഞുത്തൊമ്മൻ ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള ഭാഷ ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നതിനു കാരണമിതാണ്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : മലയാള ഭാഷയാണോ ഉപയോഗിക്കരുതെന്നു പറയുന്നത്?

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*) : മലയാളഭാഷയല്ല. അതിലുള്ള നീചമായ പദം.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : നീചമായ പദമെന്താണ്? കലാപമുണ്ടാകുമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞതാണോ ?

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): മിസ്റ്റർ കുഞ്ഞുത്തൊമ്മൻ ഉപയോഗിച്ച സ്വരം.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : വ്യക്തമായിട്ട്, ഉറക്കെ, എല്ലാവക്കും കേൾക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം പറയുന്നതാണോ നീചമായ സ്വരം?

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*) : ഈ അബദ്ധത്തിനു മറുപടി പറയണമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : ഞാൻ ആദ്യം ചോദിച്ച ചോദ്യത്തിനു് അബദ്ധംപറയാതെ മറുപടിപറയാമല്ലൊ?

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MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I heartily support my friend Mr. Raman Menon's motion in his demand for responsible Government. I do not think the Chief Secretary has treated this question with that amount of seriousness that it really deserves. He has treated it in a light-hearted manner because the Government realise that there is no sanction behind the demands made by Mr. Raman Menon. If there was sufficient sanction behind us, if there was compelling force, I am sure the Government would not have referred to some statements made by them a few months ago or even asked us to wait. The responsible Government is perhaps the first necessity of ours to-day. Even in the interests of the Government, it is most necessary. We find that the Government are unable to satisfy our demands; they are not able to give proper explanations to our questions; nor are they able to meet us even half-way with regard to our grievances. These things happen, not because of the unwillingness of the officers, not because of their carelessness or indifference, but because they might have their own difficulties. How is it that the Government are not prepared to take us into their confidence? I was hesitating to speak on this motion. I know that the demand for responsible Government from a set of people who are enjoying their present position is itself due to the very absence of responsible Government. There is no use wasting our time in asking for responsible Government time and again. I may assure you, Sir, that this is the opportunity to discuss this topic. Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent has got a high soul and she would only be pleased to have this particular opportunity utilised for giving the people a due share in the administration of the country. What is the administration to-day? It is no more than adjusting appointments, satisfying people in their clamour for appointments, registering of *puduval* lands and things like that. Are we really existing as a Government? Are our actions sufficient to justify our existence? Even a State which has been not so very forward till very recently, I mean the State of Mysore, has made much progress in these years, materially, morally, politically and in every other sphere. But, sir, can we aspire to that extent, at least —

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): Is Mr. A. K. Pillai aware of a resolution on communal representation passed in Mysore Assembly?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I do not think this question arises in this connection.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): Is he aware of such a resolution being passed?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I may be aware of so many other things. I only say that this question does not arise.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know whether Mr. A. K. Pillai advocates responsible Government under the existing conditions?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Certainly.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): What does he say about the work that is being done by the present municipal councils?

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MR. A. K PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : Give full responsible Government, make it broad-based, give us universal suffrage, make every man responsible, not merely pick up one or two people and give them all opportunities of distributing patronage.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : I rise to a point of order. Mr. Raman Menon's motion was this.

"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,296 for Huzur Cutcherry by Re. 1 to ventilate the grievances of the people caused by the want of response on the part of the administration to the urgent needs of the people".

Sir, we are now discussing the demand under "Huzur Cutcherry", under which salaries of Secretariat officers are borne. He has brought this motion to show that the policy adopted by the Chief Secretary and the work of the Dewan is quite unsatisfactory. But the debate now turns to responsible Government. This is a thing which has to be given by the Sovereign. This is a matter which cannot be voted by this Council. This is a subject which is to proceed from the Sovereign direct. When this is the case, I do not think we will be right in discussing a subject that is beyond the purview of this Council. Hence, I think Mr. A K. Pillai is out of order in debating on responsible Government.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*) : May I know what is the rule?

PRESIDENT : Mr. Thomas, he is not in possession of the House. I must accept the Additional Head Sirkar Vakil's view as correct that the whole topic of responsible Government, flowing from a source which is outside the purview of this Council, is beyond the scope of debate here.

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*) : Sir, I beg to support the motion of Mr. Raman Menon. In doing so, my object is to show that the administrative machinery in the State needs more and more screwing up. We saw from the budget discussion that all possible resources have been tapped and that it is not possible to increase our revenue any further. We also saw that a corresponding increase in the individual wealth of the State was not forthcoming. From our discussions yesterday, we understood that, in the Sub-Registrars' offices, there was so much of bribery and corruption going on. We have only to turn our attention to the other offices of the State and there also we see the same thing in a more intense form, especially among the lower ranks of officers. Take for example, a Munsiff's court. There the saying is 'that even a pillar accepts bribe' and delay in the execution of justice is very, very considerable, so much so that the people are put to serious hardship. Every man has to pay justly his quota towards the cost of the administration and, behind the back of the Government, each man has to pay a large portion of his income by way of bribes in order that justice might be done to him. This is also the case in the Excise Department, Police Department and the Public Works Department. In the latter department, it is not a question of giving, but it is a question of taking. From Rs. 7 or Rs. 8 lakhs allotted for certain works to be executed by the

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[Mr. K. Sivarama Panikkar.]

department, 15 per cent goes as contractors' profit, another 15 per cent. goes to meet the pay of the Maistries, and the remaining 70 per cent. only spent on the work concerned. Even of this 70 per cent., there is no knowing how much is actually spent on the work. Such a kind of grievance is all around in all departments of the State. It is therefore I say that more and more screwing up is necessary. From the speech made by the Chief Secretary and other members from the official block yesterday, I found that they were very anxious to put down this sort of practice. But they found this a very difficult problem. They have been saying that they were trying to solve the difficulty and it was not possible for them to come to a solution. That is not a satisfactory answer to be given by a cultured Government as ours. That corruption, bribery, and injustice everywhere should be rampant, is certainly a disgraceful affair. To say that officers were not able to put down such malpractices is not a satisfactory answer. Some solution should be found out and remedies sought for. It is therefore my earnest prayer that certain remedial measures must be found out. I must certainly say that it is due to the want of sympathy on the part of several officers concerned. These officers should feel that, besides being the dignitories of the State, they are also the servants of the people responsible to the interests of the people at large. Such a kind of feeling is absent in them. Some officers look after their own interests. They think that the Government's interest is separate from the interest of the people. This is a feeling which ought to be denounced. There cannot be two feelings in a country, the Government as separate from the people. Both their feelings should be one; then only there could be an all-round public good to the State. It is this sort of feeling that has to be aimed at.

To take another instance, I will bring to the notice of the Government, the Brooke Bond affair. While reading the report of the Brooke Bond Company, I was able to observe the amount of responsibility that our officers take in the State and the amount of responsibility that the agent of the Brooke Bond Company was showing in his letter. If we happen to read the report of the Survey Party, I must confess that I was not able to make head or tail out of the report. They were not able to give a definite idea of what took place there. To understand the real situation, I had to refer to the agent's letter. He gives us a graphic description, although not to us, but to his masters at London. It is really pitiable that our officers do not show some amount of responsibility to the people at large. Again, if what has been stated by the agent is true, it is certainly disgraceful to the Government that neither adequate provisions were supplied nor proper arrangements made, particularly considering that he was a guest and the representative of a big firm elsewhere. All these things definitely show that our officers are to a very great extent irresponsible to the Government as well as to the people at large.

Take for example, the interpellations that were answered in the Council to-day. So many interpellations have been put and every day not more than fifteen or twenty of them are being answered, and I do not

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know how they are going to answer 600 or 700 questions. Even here officers responsible for answering questions do not give the information asked for. They give answers in such a manner that the information sought for is carefully evaded. To quote one example, I will read from the answer to the question asked by Mr. Kurandipallil R. Raman Pillai.

> Will the Government be pleased to state :
>
> (*a*) the area of the premises of the English Middle School, Chirayinkil ;
>
> (*b*) whether the manager applied to the Government for compulsory acquisition of the adjoining lands for extending the premises, and if so, the date of the application ;
>
> (*c*) whether the manager was asked to deposit the cost of such acquisition and whether he deposited the amount accordingly, and, if so, the date of such deposit ; and
>
> (*d*) whether the Government acquired any land for that purpose ; if not, why ?
>
> Answers are as follow : —
>
> (*a*) 35 cents.
>
> (*b*) The manager applied for the acquisition of the lands under the Land Acquisition Regulation. It was on the 9th Vrischikam 1100.
>
> (*c*) Yes. The manager deposited the estimated cost of the acquisition on the 3rd Tulam 1101.
>
> (*d*) No. The Government did not consider that it was a matter for their interference ".

If the Government say " that they did not consider that it was a matter for their interference" why should the Manager be asked to deposit the amount ? This is only a departmental affair. Why should the Government make a nice distinction between the Education Department and the Government. This is a case where Government have not supplied the information sought for by the member. Such a bad state of affairs ought to be checked then and there, and therefore I say that a screwing up of the machinery is necessary. I hope the Government will attend to these matters sincerely.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : I also wish to speak a few words on the motion. As seen in the footnote to the motion, the mover says there are not only grievances suffered by the people in the State, but also grievances caused by the lack of response on the part of the officers of the Government. Sir, the cry has become almost universal that there is not only suffering, but also a perpetuation of suffering as a result of the lack of response on the part of the persons who are expected to respond. Now, the cry has become more or less quite frequent. When we just go back to the *Puranic* years, we come to understand on a perusal of the Puranic treatises, that there was not only no grievance then, but also there was always a very careful and vigilant watch on the part of the persons who were placed above the people.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : Was the system of administration so complex in those days ?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Because there were no complex beings, the administration was simple.

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[Mr. M. Sivatanu Pillai.]

In a Puranic story, I have come across that a certain king's son, while driving in his chariot, happened to crush a calf. When the Yuvaraja came to know of this, he came straight home, without letting anybody know of the particular incident The mother of that calf, that is the cow, went to the portico of the palace and rung the signal bell. Hearing this, the Maharaja came out and enquired as to what the matter was. When he came to know that it was the Yuvaraja's chariot that killed the calf, he became angry and threw the heir-apparent to the wheels of the chariot and crushed him to death. We have also heard of nocturnal perambulations on the part of kings for enquiring how the people suffer from woes and grievances and so forth.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Does the member justify those Puranic acts?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I do justify that. I would wish that the present administration should be on these lines.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Does the member justify the king's action, namely, crushing of his son to death?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I do not justify that, but I only say that to such an extent the king felt his responsibility towards his subjects as well as animals irrespective of the status and rank of the persons concerned.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Was it after taking evidence that the king crushed him to death?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Certainly not.

If the officers realise their sense of responsibility, I will be the first person to give them this authority. But we do not come across such mentality in our own life. We find it only in Puranas.

What is the condition today? We have grievances and when those grievances are placed before the Government, there is no response from the Government. That is the state of affairs. My friend Mr Sivarama Panikkar has been referring to the way in which this section of the House has been met by the other side. It is rather a pitiful state of affairs. The Government officers come here, as I have been repeatedly reiterating, with the intention of taking up the challenge if there be any from this side of the House and trying to cross swords with us. That mentality is not at all desirable. Perhaps it may be the result of infection from other places. In outside legislatures, we come across more or less a regular duel between the Government officers and the non-official members whenever an interpellation or a supplementary question is asked, but that is not in the least warranted in this House. In those countries, the interests of the one conflict with those of the other. But here, our interests are one and the same. It is the lack of understanding on the part of the official members of this House that gives the impression that they come here to fight us and not to help us. This thing, first of all, has got to be erased from their

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minds. In this connection, I may also say that Mr. Pitt has been giving us a good deal of hearty co-operation by his frequent interruptions. (*Laughter*). What I wish to stress is that the members on the other side of the House should co-operate with the non-official members. It is not only to their interest. They also owe a duty to the public at large as well as to our own Sovereign to see that we form a happy family like brethren or members of the same family and not to fight against each other.

Sir, in this connection, I am reminded of the painful episode about which I was referring to every time I had a chance, namely, the famous episode of the Karkad road. In this same House, there was an occasion when a grant for this road was demanded by a member. Somehow or other, the issue turned up on the present system or custom of not allowing all classes of Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent's subjects, without regard to caste, creed or colour to pass through the roads maintained from the public funds. It is only natural to condemn it when we see that the depressed classes also contribute their mite towards the public exchequer. Sir, that question was discussed and thrown out and the demand was disallowed. I cannot understand the attitude of the Government to provide for it again. I am prepared to concede that the Government might have thought that the whole House was misdirected instead of focussing their attention on the merits of the question, they were led away from the real issue. I believe the Government will seriously consider this matter and not labour to find out the necessity to open another road. As a matter of fact, there is a road there, but the depressed classes are not allowed the use of the road. The same principle, involving the same position, has been already solved in that famous campaign at Vaikam and the Government have accepted the reasonableness of the position taken by the people that the roads maintained by the State should be thrown open to all subjects of Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent. I do not understand the difficulty the Government feel in the case of the Karkad road when once they have accepted the contention of the people in the case of the Vaikam road. The question has been pending with the Government for more than a year. Instances may be multiplied. It gives the impression to the people that there is no Government responsive to the wishes of the people. I say that the Government must be prepared to listen to the grievances of the people and try to redress them as early as possible. If the officers are not prepared to do this, but on the other hand, resist the demands of the people, I think there will come a time when the people in turn will exercise their rights to resist and to offer stubborn resistance.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Sir, I would like to make a few observations on the points which have turned up during the discussion. In the first place, I should like to point out that all representations made in this House are ultimately addressed to Government, that is to the Sovereign (Mr. A. K. Pillai : *Hear, hear.*) and at present to the Maha Rani Regent of Travancore representing the Maha Raja of Travancore. So, I think it is our right to lay all our grievances at the feet of that sacred authority. It has been urged from

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[Mr. G. Raman Menon.]

the official side that Government are voluntarily constructing roads and other public works. Well, I acknowledge it. My very point is that the Government are constructing roads; but they are not doing it justly. They are doing it voluntarily or at the secret influence of others, *e. g.*, the construction of the Karkad road which the people do not want. I do not drag the discussion into that channel. The general complaint is that the rural population has been neglected and certain areas favoured by starving the rural population.

Then, as regards the subject of responsible Government, Mr. George referred to the pronouncement by the Dewan in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. If I remember correct, the purport of that was that, at present, the conditions of the country are such that no further steps are desirable to be taken in that direction.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): Sir, was not discussion on that point disallowed ?

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : I have to say that the present system of Government is unfit for the work. I do not mean it in any bitter mood. There will be as much truth or greater truth in saying this. If we look at the results of the administration of the past 30 or 35 years, we will find that the country has not benefited in any way. The administration of Government has been deteriorating. People have been complaining more and more of corruption on the part of officials and injustice to the people. In this connection, I should like to point out the qualities necessary for responsible Government.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*) : Was not the subject ruled out of order ?

PRESIDENT : Yes ; it was ruled out of order.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : The qualities necessary for responsible Gevernment have to be acquired by associating the people with the Government.

I should also like to point out in this connection that the large surplus of the State which is referred to in the budget and in the Financial Secretary's speech belong more to the rural population than to any other. So, if capital expenditure is to be incurred, it should be more in the interests of the rural population than of others who have been favoured until now. All the complaints in this House about Government and the officials may be briefly stated as one of injustice to the people, whether it is in the distribution of public works or in the distribution of public appointments.

My friend Mr. Kunjitomman during the course of his speech used the word *kalapam*. I should like to say a word upon that. Well, what I understood from Mr. Kunjitomman was nothing very formidable. We have seen *kalapams* in this country such as hootings in public meetings. Of course, these are *kalapams* according to my humble knowledge of the Malayalam language. Mr. Kunjitomman

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did not refer to anything more serious. These are sufficiently serious in our meetings. Another thing I would refer to is that such language or even stronger language is indulged in in representative assemblies. We have only to refer to almost any day's proceedings of the House of Commons. So, these things need not be taken so very seriously as my friend Mr. Kumara Pillai was disposed to take it. To wind up, Sir, I humbly place my prayer that the people may be taken more into confidence by Government in determining the policy of Government before final steps are taken. Sometimes, we come to know of them only after the event, but that is of no use to us. My humble suggestion to the Sovereign is that before embarking on very important schemes affecting the people, they may be consulted or one representative of the people may be selected or consulted in important matters. He should be responsible and he should be removable by our vote of censure. If the Government find that one representative is not sufficient, more than one may be appointed. But they should enjoy the confidence of all sorts of people and they should be responsible. With these words, I humbly place this request for the gracious acceptance or otherwise of the Sovereign. I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : There are a few points to which I should like to refer.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Mr. Raman Menon has withdrawn the motion.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : But I have the right of reply to the various statements made by the speakers.

PRESIDENT : You may proceed.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, the head "General Administration" is a very convenient head to bring in all manner of things under it, and the members have taken advantage of that opportunity and we have been discussing a wide range of subjects, so that, it is not possible within the short time allotted to the Government member to cover all the points referred to by the non-official members and to give sufficient and exhaustive replies. I shall therefore deal only with some of the main criticisms which have been made in the course of the discussion.

Mr. C. P. Thomas, in the course of his speech, referred to the unusual delay that takes place in the disposal of certain matters. He referred particularly to the Village Panchayat Regulation. He seems to think that that Regulation was passed several years ago. It was passed in 1100 and since then the matter was under correspondence with the Law Officers for framing the necessary rules. The rules have just been received by the Government. It will be conceded that a good deal of time is required for the preparation of these rules. The rules under similar enactments elsewhere had also to be looked into very carefully before they were framed and they came up before Government only a short time ago. Now these rules will have to be considered in detail, before they can be passed by the Government and brought into force. In the

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[Mr. K. George.]

case of important matters, some delay must be allowed because the Huzur Cutcherry, as at present constituted, has to refer these questions to the heads of the depa rtments and other officers and they can be finally disposed of only after the reports from the various heads of the departments are received and considered. Naturally, it takes time.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : May I know whether there is any provision regarding urgent matters? Mr. Raman Menon referred to urgent matters.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes; urgent items of business are carried on every day and even while we are here such business is attended to.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Are they urgent from the standpoint of Government alone or of the people also?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Whatever is considered urgent, whether from the point of view of the people or of the Government, is disposed of with the least possible delay.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know how many days Government take on an average to dispose of urgent petitions?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Important matters have to go to the heads of the departments and as soon as their reports are received, they are disposed of very promptly.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : Do they always go to the heads of the departments for report?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Very often they have to.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : In the case of important petitions, will the Government see that they are communicated to the heads of departments as early as possible even by telegram?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : That would not mend matters. Original petitions have to go to the heads of departments so that they may know the nature of the case.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : Could not the orders on the petitions at least be communicated by telegram?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : That is being done even now. Very often, the petitioner pays the cost of the telegram to be sent and, in such cases, we communicate the reply by telegram.

Then I think Mr. Kumara Pillai referred to the question of delays in the departmental offices. There are rules on the subject. He complained about the officers not giving endorsement to petitioners.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*) : ഞാൻ എന്റെ പ്രസംഗത്തിൽതന്ന ചീഫ സിക്രിട്ടറി ഇങ്ങനെ പറയുമെന്ന പറഞ്ഞിരുന്നല്ലൊ.

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The orders are clear that the petitioner should be given an endorsement.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*) : ഗവർമെൻറ് ഓർഡറുണ്ട്. പക്ഷേ അതിനെ കീഴ്ദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ശരിയായിട്ട് നടത്താത്തതിൻെറ രഹസ്യം എവിടെയാണിരിക്കുന്നതെന്നറിഞ്ഞാൽ കൊള്ളാം.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The only remedy is to make a complaint about the officer who does not carry out Government orders. Otherwise, the Government are not likely to know of them.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : May I know whether the Government always hear the parties before they dispose of the petition ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Govenment*) : Whenever the rules or the Regulations require that the parties should be heard, they are heard.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : Apart from the question of Rules and Regulations, is it not fair that the parties should be heard when they wish to be heard ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : This refers to an amendment of the present rules.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : Is there any objection to amend the rules?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : In special cases, Government also hear parties.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : If the present rules are defective, will the Government be pleased to consider the matter ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Government will consider the question of revising them.

Then, Mr. Sivarama Panikkar came back to the subject of corruption. I have nothing to add to what I have said yesterday. I think Mr. Sivarama Panikkar referred to one matter in particular about which an explanation is due from the Government, *viz.*, the way in which the interpellations are answered. He said that the Government are bent upon not furnishing the information that is required by the members. I must say, Sir, that this is far from being the case.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*) : ചോദ്യത്തിന് ഉത്തരം നൽകുന്ന വിഷയത്തിൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറധ്യക്ഷന്മാർ ഗവർമെൻറിനെ തെറ്റിധരിപ്പിച്ച പല അവാസ്തവങ്ങളും ഗവർമെൻറിനെക്കൊണ്ടു പറയക്കുന്നു എന്നുള്ളതിന് ഏതെങ്കിലും ദിഷ്ടാന്തം ഗവർമെൻറിൻെറ അറിവിൽ എത്തീട്ടുണ്ടോ?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No. I have not come across any definite case of that kind.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): ഏതെങ്കിലും മെമ്പർ ഈ വിവരം ഗവർമെൻറിനെ അറിയിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): May have, I have not heard.

I was speaking of the way in which interpellations are answered. One difficulty that we feel is that they come all on a sudden and in very large numbers and much of the information is not available in the Huzur Office. They have all to be referred to the heads of departments and very often they also do not have the information which the members require in their offices and the questions have to be referred to the subordinate offices.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether the Chief Secretary has any explanation regarding questions which have not been answered for more than a year?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): They might have lapsed or the information might not have been received from the heads of departments.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): But what has he to say to cases where the questions have been repeated?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): If the member will specify instances, I will enquire into them, or the member might write to the Chief Secretary.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): The drafting of questions itself requires labour. We cannot write private letters in addition to them.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I say that it is not possible to find out the delay in the case of each interpellation. If any delay is found in the case of answering any interpellation, I assure the House that the delay is not intentional. The answers have to come very often, as I said, from the heads of the departments and when they come they are regarded at every stage as *emergent*. Only recently, the Government issued a circular that the preparation of the answers and submitting them to Government should be regarded as *emergent* at every stage.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know whether it will not be better if the heads of the departments concerned themselves answer the questions pertaining to their departments?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I think it requires consideration to answer that question. We are now concerned only with the existing rules.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): What explanation has the Chief Secretary to offer regarding the inordinate delay in the case of questions the materials for answering which are available within the four walls of the Secretariat?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : In the course of noting, some points may be raised on which a solution may be required. In such cases, the office has to note again calling for any further information from the heads of departments, if necessary. When we come to this House, we must have full information before us so that we may give satisfactory answers to supplementary questions. That is one of the reasons why sometimes the answers are delayed. As regards the answers not being full or complete, I may say that the members can ask supplementary questions and elicit any further information and the information available to Government will be furnished. In regard to the particular question referred to by Mr. Sivarama Panikkar, the member did not ask any supplementary question. The official member had further information and as no supplementary questions were asked, he was not in a position to enlighten the member. As regards the answer itself, it was direct and full.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : May I know whether, during recent years, especially during the last five or six years, at almost every great public meeting held in different parts of the country, resolutions have been passed and communicated to the Government that the representatives of the people could be more effectively associated in Government matters. ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I cannot recollect any resolutions having been received. The question of responsible government is not before us just now. Besides, this Council is associated with Government in the administration of the country so that it cannot be said that the representatives of the people are not associated with the Government. In the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly also—

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Has no resolution been received by the Government ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I do not now recollect any resolution having been received.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : Is this the maximum responsible Government that we could expect in the near future ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Mr. Raman Menon was speaking of the association of the people with the Government in various matters. I said that the representatives of the people are already associated with the Government in the administration of the State.

In regard to interpellations, I would ask the House to accept the *bona fides* of the Government members in this matter. There is no intention on the part of the Government of not answering the questions or not answering to the point.

I believe I have met most of the important points referred to by the members.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*) : What does the member say about the throwing open of 17 schools to all classes ?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): As the member himself is aware, the Government have been in recent years throwing open more schools to all classes, one by one. If some schools have not yet been thrown open, there may be peculiar difficulties in the way. What I can say is that the department is taking vigorous steps to throw open all schools to all classes. In some cases, the schools may be located in places where there may be caste trouble. In such cases, steps are taken to remove the school-house to a locality where there is not such trouble.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): May I know the measures that are taken?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): In some cases, the school itself will have to be removed to a place where access can be had to all people.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): May I know the difficulty for that?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It requires a lot of money and time and all that.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Why do the Government recognise caste in the matter of official procedure?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): In some places, Pulayas and Parayas may not be able to walk into a particular school if it is close to a temple.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Even if they happen to be in public places?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Then also, there may be this difficulty.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know why different sheds with notice boards "Christians", "Nayars", "Mahomedans" etc., are erected here?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): For the convenience of the members.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Why different sheds?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. For convenience.

The Government are alive in the matter of throwing open of all schools to all classes and I believe they are taking steps to throw them open one by one. It will also be seen that the number of schools that have not been thrown open to all classes is also diminishing year by year.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I withdraw my motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

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Motion 262.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Sir, I beg to move the following motion: —

262. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,296 for Huzur Cutcherry by Re. 1.

Sir, the object of the motion, as it is evident in the explanatory note appended to the motion itself is to discuss the actual working of the Newspaper's Regulation and to discuss the question that a stronger policy may be adopted by the Government.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated (Deputy President)*): In what matter?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): In every matter. To explain further, I may say, Sir, with regard to the second part of my motion, I want to bring to the attention of this House and the Government the absolute necessity for having a strong and constitutional policy to be adopted by the Government. I cannot but say that Travancore is at present suffering from the evils of a weak, though autocratic administration. Sir, autocratic in the sense that the administration is not carried on with any definite and well-recognised principles or with any respect for popular rights and weak in the sense that the irresponsible wire-pullers seem to have an upper hand in the present administration. I do not want to explain that point further.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Is such language as "irresponsible wire-pullers" allowable in this House?

PRESIDENT: It is all too vague a thing and it depends on the meaning. As it is, it may be utterly meaningless.

MR K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Coming to the first point, that is the working of the obnoxious measure, the Newspapers Regulation, it clearly proves at once the weakness and the autocracy o the Government. The absolutely autocratic way in which license fees were levied for newspapers—fixing lower fees for papers that flatter persons in power even though some of them had a bad record, and higher fees, nay the maximum fees, for independent and fearless newspapers with absolutely no bad record—would not have been allowed by a Government that have any respect for public opinion. Sir, I know that the present Dewan, though the Newspapers Regulation was promulgated while he was here, was not here when the license fees were first fixed. The autocratic and illegal way in which the administration acted in warning the *Navasakti* and in exculpating, after a prolonged consideration extending over a long period, the *Malabar Advocate* that cast an aspersion on the good name of the late lamented Sri Mulam Tirunal Maha Raja of revered memory and the extremely unsatisfactory explanation offered by the Government, when the matter was interpellated by me, only exposed the rottenness of the administration. In spite of universal public protest, the head of the administration is not moving his little finger to scrap the Newspapers Regulation from the Statute Book whose pages it is now disfiguring. The weakness of the control

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[Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai.]

exercised by the Government cannot be better revealed than by the immunity with which Mr. C. K. Mathan, the District Magistrate of Quilon was allowed to trample down the rights, the privileges and safety of the people.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Is it relevant to the motion?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): I say absolutely relevant. I am suggesting this to show--

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Is it fair to attack an officer who is not here to defend himself?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): I am not attacking an officer. I am attacking his action as District Magistrate. He holds office under the Government; so, I am attacking his action which has to be controlled by the Government. That is my point. Sir, to put a further question, for what was this done? I say it was for memorialising His Excellency the Viceroy to represent to him the grievances of a particular section of the people in Travancore. I ask the question whether any responsible Government, much less a civilised Government have tolerated such a high-handed behaviour on the part of a District Magistrate. What did the head of the administration do to bring that erring officer to book? Sir, this question demands an explanation.

Then again, Sir, the administration is not guided in the matter of distribution of patronage by any well-recongised principle known beforehand to the public. Claims of seniority, efficiency, etc., are set at naught. The appointment of Mr. A. R. Subrahmanya Aiyar is an instance in point. When by particular action of Government, a particular heart-burning is caused to a particular officer serving in the department by promotion or by a new appointment and when questions are put in this House or when explanations are asked, at one time they would be putting forward an excuse that it is not seniority that guides the Government in that matter and at another time they would be putting forward the excuse that efficiency ought to weigh. At another time, they will be assuming another position that the Goverment make a selection as the apointment is made by selection. It is because of such total absence of any principle with regard to different persons, either in the matter of promotion or of appointment, the real heart-burning is caused. I quote this particular instance to show that in the appointment of Mr. A. R. Subrahmanya Aiyar no question of seniority or efficiency or selection—

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil cum Devicolam*): To which post?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Assistant Secretary in the Huzur Cutcherry.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): May I know the appointment while Mr. A. R. Subrahmanya Aiyar holds?

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MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : Assistant Secretary to Government.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : What was he prior to this appointment?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : He was a Second Grade Tahsildar as 15th in that Grade.

The accumulation of arrears has become a scandal in the State. I also ask what the Government officers are really doing? May I ask whether there is no one to exact proper work from these officers? Most probably, it may not be a surprise to see if there is an accumulation so far as the minor departmental officers are concerned when there is accumulation in the Secretariat, in the office of the head of the administration. The people complain, Sir, and that legitimately, that their interests are no longer safe in the hands of the present authorities. Can any one imagine a Government that is not prepared to show preference to Travancoreans in the matter of the assignment of Travancore lands? The present Government think that Travancoreans have no preferential claim to get lands in Travancore when they are sold by Government. Can any one point out another head of administration who advocates, the cause of non-Travancorean to the detriment of the sons of the soil. Even in the working of the Legislative Council Regulation, the people can discern an anxiety on the part of the Dewan not to take the people into his confidence. The Council is not convened as often as was the practice. The voice of the Council as expressed in the resolutions passed by it is not carried out with the required promptness. The privileges of the Council are not secure in the hands of the Dewan who is unfortunately its President and who cannot shake off the feeling that he is the Dewan of the State while presiding over the deliberations of the House.

Sir, to conclude, it is high time that we have a change of policy. The head of the administration should realise that he is paid from public funds to safeguard the interests, rights and privileges of the people.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Sir, the object of the motion is to discuss the actual working of the Newspapers Regulation and to discuss the question of a strong policy to be adopted by the Government. I also wish to offer a few remarks upon these heads. My friend will excuse me if I did not wholly follow the actual steps by which he came to the conclusion of his speech. I shall therefore confine myself only to the points raised by him. In the first place, Sir, it seems to me that the Government did a very unwise thing in passing the Newspapers Regulation. Presumably, the object of the Government was to check and prevent undue and unreasonable criticism of the Government. But the effect has been the reverse. All the particular papers which were indulging in such malpractices about the Government have migrated to a place one mile outside Travancore and they are continuing it at a far more vehement rate than they were

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doing it before. It is acknowledged on all hands that it is so. I say therefore that we are in a very foolish position. When we pass a certain piece of legislation and it produces just the opposite effect, we who are more or less part of the Government, have to hang our heads in shame. It seems to me that, so long as there is no such law in British India, it is not desirable or expedient to have any such Regulation in Travancore.

Then, as regards the question whether a strong policy may be adopted by the Government. On this subject, I am not acquainted with the areana or the mysteries of the Government. Unfortunately, I have not had the time to examine the specific instances put forward by Mr. Nilakanta Pillai. Anyhow, I think it is better, as it is, that nothing more is done, because I am sure that any particular action under this Regulation over and above what was possible before will end in a thorough failure for the Government. So, I say it is better to keep the prestige of the Government and keep it more or less as a dead letter as they have done. That is all that I have to say. I neither support nor oppose the motion.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Sir, I do not know myself which position I should take in regard to this motion. I shall try to voice the feelings of the major portion of the countrymen living in South Travancore. As regards the question of the working of the Newspapers Regulation, I have not got very much to say, because, in the first place, in my part of the country, particularly in the south, we have no journal either weekly or triweekly. Perhaps that might be, to a great extent, responsible for not seeing things as they ought to be done. If I may just quote an instance, I hope my friends will not misunderstand me in regard to this matter, it is an instance standing by itself and relates to the appointments to the judiciary of two individuals belonging to the Tamil community. Of course, they had put their full period and nobody had any complaints at least to shove them out. When an occasion arose, one of them was not given even breathing time to sit as judge in the High Court. Whatever that might be, I have felt and am constrained to believe that it was for want of newspapers in our own parts.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ദക്ഷിണഭാരതിയും ട്രാവൻകൂർ ടൈംസും തെക്കൻ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലുള്ള പത്രങ്ങളല്ല ?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Perhaps they may not come under the category of newspapers such as generally understood by the major part of Travancore. (*Laughter.*) Sir, I was wondering myself why my friend Mr. Raman Menon was running down such a Regulation as the Newspapers Regulation and give room for the belief that it is a camouflage for throttling the press. I do not understand such a position. In the first place, if we analyse the newspapers, there are

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certain newspapers in the State which need not be treated very seriously because they take revenge under the position ഇടതോ. There a particular officer will be vilified and towards the end of that article you will find the expression, a very significant expression ഇടതോ which means it will be continued. Sir, it has got a wonderful effect in the minds of certain officers.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): May I tell the member that practice obtains in the minds of some members of this House also?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I do not catch my friend. He may infer whatever he likes. I do not understand why people should get so much scared. If the officer concerned in a particular case has a clean conscience, why should he be afraid of the significant phraseology? So I say the remedy is not in the throttling of the press, but in the throttling of the guilty conscience of the officers. The remedy lies in correcting the conduct and the mentality of the officers and if they could stand on their own legs, they need not be afraid of the significant phraseology ഇടതോ. I asked the Chief Secretary whether he was of opinion that as are the people so will be the Government. The Chief Secretary said that the conduct of the people is to a great extent reflected in the conduct of the officers concerned. As an instance in point, after the promulgation of the Newspapers Regulation, it is found that one paper is asked to deposit Rs 100, another Rs. 200. What I say is that in the case of those papers which have bitterly attacked particular officers, the sum is raised and in the case of a newspaper which has flattered a particular officer the amount is reduced. So, what I say is that these officers are not above board. Why should they be afraid of the caricatures about them in the newspapers. After all, are the Government warranted in taking that position? I can understand the Labour Government being afraid of the Northcliff Press. But I could not understand the position here. If the papers are left to themselves, they will die of their own accord by writing against each other and the Government can, sitting on the fences, have a very good diversion. As I said the other day, and Mr Pitt also referred to this as a policy being adopted generally, certain papers will combine together and give very reasonable criticisms. But here in this country by the application of the Newspapers Regulation certain papers are very much afraid of offering legitimate criticism which they would be able to offer if there is no application of the Regulation. If the Regulation itself is indiscriminately applied by an officer, then he will not have the good will of any paper.

Then, with regard to a strong policy to be adopted by the Government, I beg to state that I may perhaps be condemned for repetition, but I cannot help doing it again. I have heard it said by responsible officers that there is opposition from certain class of caste Hindus with regard to the opening of roads at Suchindram for all classes. Sir, the

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opposition comes there from certain classes of the caste Hindus who will naturally be deprived of the opportunity to exact four or five chackrams by way of conducting bandy, from one end of the road to the other. I ask whether the Government seriously believe in that objection for not solving the problem because there is opposition from these caste Hindus? Sir, when once the Government are convinced of the desirability and the reasonableness of the position taken by all people that these roads are being repaired from public funds, the Government should at once feel courageous that they are really acting in favour of the people at large in a problem which is not only desirable but very urgent. Yesterday, I had occasion to refer to this aspect of the question that the heads of departments should be strong to put down corruption wherever it is found even though there is nc legal evidence or evidence worth the name. If the head of the department really feels that a particular officer is corrupt, whether it is desirable or agreeable to a certain section of the community or not, he should have the conscience to hold that corruption should be put down then and there. So, when there is a clamour on this side of the House demanding that the Government should hold a strong policy in the matter of putting down corruption as well as putting into effect or into actual practice the attempts put forward in this House, it is only up to the Government and the duty of this House as well as the controlling head, to see that these things are given effect to in actual practice.

The Council adjourned for lunch at 2 P. M.

The Council reassembled at 2-45 P. M.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): സർ, നീചഭാഷ ഉപയോഗിച്ചു എന്ന മിസ്റ്റർ കുമാരപിള്ള ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിക്കയുണ്ടായി. അത് ഈ കൌൺസിലിന്റെ ഗൌരവത്തിനു യോജിച്ചതല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ട് അതിനെപിൻവലിക്കാൻ അദ്ദേഹത്തിനോടു പറയണം.

PRESIDENT: But Mr. Kumara Pillai is not here.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): നീചഭാഷ എന്നുപറഞ്ഞതാണ് നീചമായപ്രയോഗം. മേലാൽ അങ്ങിനെ പരസ്പരം പറയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ കലാപംഇവിടത്തന്നെ ഉണ്ടായേക്കും "കലാപം" എന്നുള്ളതു നീചപദപ്രയോഗമല്ല.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Sir, if the object of the motion of my friend Mr. Nilakanta Pillai was to stress on the attention of the Government the need for repealing the Newspapers Regulation, I am entirely one with him.

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MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): That is so far as the first part is concerned.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): May I bring to your attention that under the ruling of the President in the Legislative Council, last year, any question of the repealing the Newspapers Regulation is out of order?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): We do not advocate its repeal all on a sudden. We have no power to repeal it.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): All that Mr. Nilakanta Pillai has done is to stress on the attention of the Government the need for the repeal; he does not want that it should be repealed.

Sir, the promulgation of the Newspapers Regulation is an unhappy event in the history of Travancore in recent years. I do not think Government require any Regulation like this for the legitimate function of the Government. On the other hand, by promulgating that Regulation, not only in the way in which it was done, but at the time at which it was done, I think the Government courted a good deal of trouble and spent much time which they could have used on schemes of far-reaching importance. I feel sorry for this. I feel sorry both for the Government and the people. As a newspaper-man, I cannot come here and say with a clear conscience that most of the newspapers did not justify the Regulation. Most of the newspapers are by their own conduct justifying the action of the Government. I feel sorry as a newspaper-man that such a Regulation was passed. But I ask, what have the Government gained by passing that Regulation? As Mr. Raman Menon said, Government have not fared better on account of the Newspapers Regulation; they have only driven the papers to a corner. I think the Newspapers Regulation reflects disgrace both on the Government and the people. I say that it is a disgrace to the Government. Here we claim that a good deal of advance has been made in the direction of education. Should we not expect the educated people to know what they should write and what they should not write. Does not our education stand self-condemned today if our literate men do not write properly? Our plea when the Newspapers Regulation was passed was this, that no such Regulation was necessary and that, if there was an ill-behaved paper, then the people themselves know how to deal with that. But we have been disillusioned on that point. That only reflects the bad kind of education that we are having. I do not want to dilate upon this unhappy condition. I would only say that the Government will find the need for repealing the Regulation which has been passed at such a time and behind the back of the House and against the wishes of the people. If they ignore this wisdom, let them reflect over that. I only want to thrust on the attention of the Government that they should not ignore this wisdom.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): Sir, it is rather difficult to understand the attitude of Mr. A. K. Pillai. While he admits that there are misbehaving newspapers—

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MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): But I said that that was a consequence of the Regulation.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): I do not think so. If there are misbehaving newspapers and a Regulation is brought about on account of that, I do not see the force of his argument.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Are there not other provisions of law under which the misbehaving of newspapers could be dealt with?

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): There are; only those provisions of law could be brought into effect after the mischief has occurred.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): May I remind my friend Mr. Subba Aiyar that my point was that the Regulation had no deterrent effect?

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): I base my argument only upon what Mr. A. K. Pillai said. I find it difficult to reconcile the latter portion of his argument with what he said first. We want something more tangible to see that the newspapers do not indulge in mischief. There must be something more deterrent than the present law. But, at the same time, I must say that the Newspapers Regulation has, so far as I can see, not been used to suppress any newspaper.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I tell the Deputy President that the Chief Secretary stated that after the promulgation of the Newspapers Regulation seven newspapers stopped publication?

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): I admit that. But I do not think that the stopping was due to this cause. It may be due to several other causes, for example, want of subscribers or want of funds.

I think the tone of the newspapers has considerably improved after the promulgation of the Regulation. I say, Sir, that nobody could have any objection to a paper criticising the act of an officer or the measures promulgated by him as an officer. It is only when the paper descends to personalities, when it attributes motives to him and when it brings all sorts of things against the person, it is only then that the Regulation comes in. I do not think any Government will be offended in the least on sane criticisms that may be offered by a newspaper, detatching itself from the personalities of the individual officer concerned.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I ask the Deputy President whether he was not listening to the speeches of the members on this side of the House, who said, when they dealt with the question of corruption, that the misconduct on the part of officers was due to communal partiality?

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): My friend does not understand my argument. You can say that a particular

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officer did a particular thing in his official capacity which could not be liked by the people. He may even be called autocratic or weak or inefficient. But to say that he was guided by a very bad motive is defamatory to the person. An attack on an officer as an officer is all right. But never descend to personalities. I shall quote an instance. I found recently a paper criticising the policy of the Government. We cannot conceive of a more severe criticism of the Government than the one contained in the paper. Nobody could have any objection to that if it is confined to the measures of the Government and is detached from personalities. If you want to criticise an officer, by all means do so apart from the personalities. I do not think any Regulation can prevent that. But when you descend to personalities and attribute motives to his actions, then there must be something to check that. As such, I think the Regulation is wholesome. If the Regulation is in a position to make these papers avoid personalities or attribute motives to officers, I think it is useful.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Torala*): May I know from Mr. Subba Aiyar whether communal prejudice on the part of an officer is detachable?

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): May be. I am not going to take individual cases into consideration. That is the general principle. Simply because there have not been very many cases, it does not mean that there has been no necessity for it. You may as well say that because there has been offence committed under a particular Section of the Penal Code, repeal that Section. But I must say that it is on account of the existence of that Section in the Regulation its moral effect continues. In regard to the rate of fees, it is entirely left to the officers to decide and no offence is committed. They might have taken the facts existing at the time into consideration in fixing the rate of fees. The existence of the Section does not in the least interfere with the legitimate criticism of the acts done by an officer in his official capacity or of the measures and policy of the Government. I do not think any case has been made out for repealing the Regulation.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Sir, there is one point on which I agree with Mr. Nilakanta Pillai. The question of recruitment to the public service is really the cause of all the trouble. Mr. Nilakanta Pillai stated that the Government have not got any settled principles in the matter of such recruitment, and so, applicants could not judge beforehand whether they will have or will not have any chance of getting a place in Government service. When there is no settled principle, interested people would naturally clamour to force the attention of Government to their side. It was under these circumstances that the newspapers misbehaved themselves and the Government were forced to promulgate the Newspapers Regulation. If there were definite principles on which alone appointments will be made, there would not have been any cry against the Government. Therefore this is a matter on which the Government should devote their serious attention. This is also a matter on which Government have to act

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[Mr. V. Subba Aiyar.]

strongly. I belive the present Government is sufficiently strong. The enactment of the Newspapers Regulation itself shows that it is not lacking in courage, especially in view of the fact that the Regulation was passed without obtaining the sanction of this House. If there were definite principles on the question of recruitment to the public service, I think that much of this trouble could have been avoided. Nobody could have complained against the Government. If the Government really believe that efficiency must be the sole principle of recruitment, they can plainly say so and act up to it though the people may clamour for communal representation. All that I am saying is that the Government should make definite rules in the matter.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Is it the contention of the member that the passing of the Newspapers Regulation behind the back of the Council denotes moral strength on the part of the Government?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I believe so.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Will the member be pleased to elucidate the meaning of moral strength?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): If the administration had not sufficient moral strength, it would not have passed it.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether the member would be pleased to throw more light on the expression moral strength?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I do not think anything more is necessary.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Does the member say that moral opinion consists in the number of voices raised for or against a particular provision?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): It does not depend on the number of voices raised. If the Government feel that the opinion expressed by a minority is correct and that the opinion of a majority against it is not correct, then the Government will be justified in acting up to the opinion of the minority.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I ask the member whether the Government have shown moral courage on any other measures?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): It depends on how the Government view the intrinsic merits of each case.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Does the member therefore conclude that the enactment of the Newspapers Regulation is good?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Considering the circumstances, the Government would have taken it as an expedient act.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Was it good?

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MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): It was an expedient act. On constitutional principles it can not be considered to be a good act, especially because the House was not consulted about it. If the Government had done it with the sanction of this House, it would have been better. I do not think it necessary to go further into the matter of the Newspapers Regulation at present.

One word as regards the present motion itself. Even though I support Mr. Nilakanta Pillai on the one point, I do not think I can agree with him on the language and ideas expressed by him. I find it very difficult to support the motion on the lines urged by him.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I find from the speeches made on the other side of the House that the motion of Mr. Nilakanta Pillai has not much of support from the House and it is not necessary for me to make any detailed reply to his statement.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): I can enumerate half a dozen instances in which if the Government want, they can reply. I gave the instance of Mr. Mathen's action and Mr. A. R. Subrahmanya Aiyar's appointment. These are points on which the Government can, if they are willing, reply. If they are unwilling, they need not reply.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The two points that he referred to in his notice of motion are these: (1) to discuss the actual working of the Newspapers Regulation; and (2) to discuss the question that a stronger policy may be adopted by the Government. I can only talk on these general questions. As regards the Newspapers Regulation itself, I do not wish to speak much as there was nothing new in the speeches made by the members on the other side of the House today. The whole question of the Newspapers Regulation was discussed last year in this House and the necessity for it was explained to the House then and the House then gave an emphatic approval of the action of the Government.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I tell him that he is proceeding on a wrong point? I was speaking of the working of the Regulation and not of the necessity. I never said anything about the necessity.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I am speaking of the necessity.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): I never spoke anything about the necessity.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not find anything in Mr. Nilakanta Pillai's speech to show that the Newspapers Regulation was causing hardship. If the Regulation was working hard on the newspapers, the newspapers would have gone down in numbers. On the other hand, after the Newspapers Regulation was passed, the number of newspapers in the State has considerably increased. I have got figures from the Administration Report for 1101 (page 70, paragraph 90) which go to show that the newspapers have increased in number. After the Administration Report for 1101 was issued, the number has further increased.

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MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I tell him that in reply to an interpellation, the answer given was that the number of newspapers has gone down?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Probably he is referring to the statement that 7 newspapers have stopped publication. Let me tell him that after the Newspapers Regulation was promulgated, 51 newspapers came newly into being. Mr. Subba Aiyar has himself answered that the stopping of a particular newspaper may be due to various reasons.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): And the cropping of a newspaper may also be due to so many other things.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No case has been shown at all as to the harmful effect of the working of the Regulation. On the other hand, the effect has been shown to be most salutary and, as Mr. Subba Aiyar said, a newspaper which attacks Governmental measures has nothing to fear from the Government. The fact that during the last one year there has been no action taken against any newspaper indicates the broad-mindedness of the Government.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know from the Chief Secretary what the principle was on which different sums have been imposed on different newspapers as license fees?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That same question was asked and answered in this House last year and no further explanation is necessary on that point now.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): The answer then given was that the Government thought it necessary to do so.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): In regard to the other points raised by the mover, I am unable to give an answer and as I find the other members of this House have not expressed any opinion on those points, I do not think there is any necessity to answer him.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I now from him whether the Government think that the other members have given their support or non-support to this motion?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether the Government have got to say anything about the opening of the Suchindram road?

PRESIDENT: Mr. George has already sat down.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Sir, with regard to the Chief Secretary's observation that in the active working of the Newspapers Regulation there was no complaint, I wish to submit the following points by way of reply. With regard to the paper that I have already referred to, namely, the *Navasakti*, it had published an editorial on the 29th June 1926 and the heading of the editorial was "ധരൂമ് ധരൂമോ?" That newspaper was warned on the 24th July, that is within one month. Then the *Malabar Advocate* published another article on the 12th June 1926, that is two weeks earlier than the article

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in the *Navasakti*. The editorial published in the *Malabar Advocate* contained the following passage.

"It is a notorious fact that in the last reign there was a Palace favourite who used to sell appointments and other forms of similar patronages to the highest bidder. Anybody, no matter whether well-qualified or ill-qualified could get a job provided he was ready to pay for it."

I asked an interpellation whether this particular passage was brought to the notice of Government. But the wonderful Law Department of the Government, after a prolonged consideration extending over one year, gave me an answer that no action under the Newspapers Regulation lies for this passage. From the passage I quoted, it is clear that it is nothing but throwing dirt on the previous administration. Coming to the Newspapers Regulation, Section 5 reads thus:

"5. Whenever it appears to Our Government that any Newspaper in respect of which a license has been granted under this Regulation—

(i) contains any words, signs, or visible representations which are likely or may have a tendency, directly or indirectly, whether by inference, suggestion, metaphor, implication or otherwise—

(*a*) to excite disaffection against or bring into hatred or contempt Us or Our Government or His Majesty the King-Emperor of India or the Government established by law in British India, or

(*b*) to bring into hatred or contempt any member of the Ruling Family of Travancore."

If the passage which I quoted as appearing in the *Malabar Advocate* is not throwing dirt on the member of a Ruling Family, I fail to understand the legal knowledge of the Travancore Government. Legal knowledge is not the monopoly of the Law Department of the Travancore Government. The article which appeared in the *Navasakti* is purely an article about an individual officer. The purport of that article was "ചാട്ടുമുഖത്തോ". I find that the Newspapers Regulation was promulgated soon after Mr. Watts went to England. The paper under the heading "ചാട്ടുമുഖത്തോ" said that since he is a *Rajyadrohi* he should not return to the country. That was the purport of the article. But the wonderful Law Department said that the article excited sedition. I assert that there is not a smell of sedition in that article. Therefore, I put the question whether the pressnt Government instead of doing justice was not doing injustice.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): May I know from the member what was done to that paper?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): It was warned for sedition.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Was it warned under the Newspapers Regulation?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Yes, under Section 5 of the Newspapers Regulation.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): May I correct him? The paper was warned that action will be taken under the Newspapers Regulation if it did not apologise.

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MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): That is not correct. I interpellated the Government further and the learned Chief Secretary answered that action will be taken under Section 5 of the Newspapers Regulation. I think that point has to be cleared. Statements once made should not be denied.

The purport of the article is "ചാട്ട്സ് ചങ്ങന്നോ" This is the Chief Secretary's answer:

In respect of the leading article under the heading. "ചാട്ട്സ് ചങ്ങന്നോ" published in the issue of the "Navasakti", dated the 15th Mithunam 1101, the Government issued a warning to the printer and publisher of the newspaper, as the Government were satisfied that the article offended against the provisions of sub-section (i) of Section 5 of Regulation V of 1101".

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The article offended against the Newspapers Regulation, but no action was taken under the Newspapers Regulation.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): The article offended against the Newspapers Regulation, but the Government took action under some other Regulation—that is a very wonderful dodging—that is the way in which the Newspapers Regulation is actually worked. I do not want that Government should use their discrimination with regard to individuals concerned—the publisher or the editor of the newspaper. If Government were strong enough, they must apply the law that they promulgated without distinction and impartially. If they cannot do it, the Newspapers Regulation should be repealed and they must retire from the scene. That is what I submit. The learned Chief Secretary said that no injustice was done in the actual working of the Regualtion. This is an injustice. Sir, with regard to the other points, nothing came out from the Chief Secretary, because I know it is difficult and inconvenient for him to answer the various points raised in my speech. He cannot meet them and that weakness came in as a defence to the Chief Secretary. Therefore, he passed over by generally making a remark that it does not contain any point to be answered. Every sentence is a point and if the Chief Secretary reads the speech carefully, he will understand that every sentence is a point, and every point is essential and requires an answer. Therefore, I do not want to go further on the matter. With these words, I beg to resume my seat. I beg leave to withdraw my motion.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): I object to the withdrawal of the motion.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഞാൻ ഈ അഭിപ്രായത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങിയിരിക്കുന്നു.

The motion for withdrawal was put to the vote and carried.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

PRESIDENT: I now take it that the House sanctions the amount under Demand IX—General Administration—Rs. 2·01 lakhs.

The grant was made.

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The following motions lapsed :—

Motions 263 to 290.

The following motions lapsed on account of the time-limit.

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR :

263. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,296 for Huzur Cutcherry by Rs. 10.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH :

264. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,296 for Huzur Cutcherry by Rs. 10.

MR. A. K. PILLAI :

265. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,296 for Huzur Cutcherry by Rs. 10.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI :

266. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,296 for Huzur Cutcherry by Rs. 100.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN :

267. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,296 for Huzur Cutcherry by Rs. 100.

MR. A. J. JOHN :

268. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,296 for Huzur Cutcherry by Rs. 100.

MR. C. P. THOMAS :

269. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,296 for Huzur Cutcherry by Rs. 100.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI :

270. To reduce the allotment of Rs 1,55,296 for Huzur Cutcherry by Rs. 100.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI :

271. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,55,296 for Huzur Cutcherry by Rs. 100.

15 C. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL—*Contingencies.*

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI :

272. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,500 for purchase of books and periodicals by Rs. 100.

MR. S PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI :

273. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 400 for purchase and repair of furniture by Rs. 200.

MR. A. J. JOHN :

274. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,000 for election charges by Rs.5.

Motions for reduction of total grant.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI :

275. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,400 for Legislative Council by Re. 1.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI :

276. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,400 for Legislative Council by Re. 1.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN :

277. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,400 for Legislative Council by Rs. 5.

MR. KURANDIPALLIL R. RAMAN PILLAI :

278. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,400 for Legislative Council by Rs. 10.

MR. A. K. PILLAI :

279. To reduce the allotment of Rs 26,400 for Legislative Council by Rs. 10.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH :

280. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,400 for Legislative Council by Rs 10.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI :

281. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,400 for Legislative Council by Rs. 10.

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MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI:
282. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,400 for Legislative Council by Rs. 100.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI:
283. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,400 for Legislative Council by Rs. 100.

MR. A. J. JOHN:
284. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,400 for Legislative Council by Rs. 100.

15. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—SRI MULAM POPULAR ASSEMBLY—*Total grant.*

MR. A. K. PILLAI:
285. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,600 for Sri Mulam Popular Assembly by Rs. 10.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH:
286. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,600 for Sri Mulam Popular Assembly by Rs. 10.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN:
287. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,600 for Sri Mulam Popular Assembly by Rs. 100.

Motions for reduction of total grant under Demand IX.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI:
288. To reduce the total amount of Rs. 2·01 lakhs under Demand IX by Re. 1.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON:
289. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2·01 lakhs under Demand IX by Rs. 10.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI:
290. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2·01 lakhs under Demand IX by Rs. 100

DEMAND X—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—ACCOUNT OFFICE.

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I beg to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 1·01 lakhs under Demand X—General Administration—Account Office.

Motion 291.

The following motion was not moved:—

MR. K. I. JOSEPH:
291. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1·01 lakhs under Demand X by Rs. 10.

Motion 292.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Sir, I beg to move the following motion.

292. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1·01 lakhs under Demand X by Rs. 100.

The object of the motion is to discuss the question whether officers should be allowed to reduce their age (*Laughter*). Sir, the particular point that I want to bring to the attention of the House is that, some years ago, there was strong public opinion in the country that officers after the retireable age should not be given extension of

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